

RAWMARSH
Urban District Council.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1905,

BY

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Medical Officer of Health.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1905.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RAWMARSH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you to-night my report for 1905 on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Parish—the seventeenth I have had the privilege of presenting to you.

I am pleased to state that the death-rate for the year, like that for the whole of England and Wales, is the lowest recorded. Calculated on the deaths registered in the district, it is 13.46 per thousand inhabitants, against 15.19 for 1904. It is not so satisfactory that the birth-rate, also like that of the whole country, is the lowest recorded, being 34.82, against 35.07 for 1904, and 27.2 for the whole of England and Wales for 1905. I think it likely that one cause of this diminished birth-rate may be a smaller marriage rate in Rawmarsh, owing to the long strike at Thrybergh Colliery, which has now lasted about twenty months. Notwithstanding the low birth-rate, the natural increase in the population by the number of births over deaths is 331, against an average for the previous ten years of 309.

The corrected death-rate, which includes the deaths of residents of the parish removed through sickness and infirmity to institutions outside the district, is 14.38, against 16.13 for the previous year. This rate, you will see from Table VII., is below all the average death-rates of the Registrar General's divisions to be found in that table, and is 3.6 per thousand inhabitants per annum less than the average rate for the parish for the previous ten years.

There is a very gratifying reduction in the infant mortality, which has not been so low since 1894 ; but this rate, although it will probably compare very favourably with that of surrounding districts, is still considerably higher than for England and Wales (which is the lowest yet recorded)—the large towns, smaller towns, and the whole country, less these towns. A new table—Tables IX. and X.—issued by the Local Government Board shows in detail the causes of death among infants up to a year old.

The Zymotic death-rate is also the lowest recorded and is below the average for the whole of England and Wales.

I shall be very pleased if the future continue to show such favourable statistics, and should reveal that this record year is the result of the work of your sanitary department ; but in the

meantime, while making due allowance for the good work it has done, I do not give that department credit for being the sole cause of these diminished death-rates. I think it probable meteorological conditions, of which there is much yet to be learnt as a contributory cause of disease, have had something to do with the low death-rates all over the country.

HOUSES, POPULATION, &c.

The localities Rawmarsh and Parkgate, first adopted by my predecessor for the purposes of the annual report, correspond to the ecclesiastical divisions of the parish, Rawmarsh being north and Parkgate south of a line drawn from east to west through the middle of Terrace Road and Netherfield Lane. I have long thought this delimitation unsatisfactory, and I propose that in future Parkgate should include the East, West, and South Wards, and Rawmarsh the Central and North Wards. The names will then represent two populated districts in different levels, watersheds, and drainage areas, and to some extent with different subsoils, and distinctly separated by an unpopulated part near the top of Rawmarsh Hill and immediately below the Church and Rectory. The tables in this report are based on this altered delimitation.

Builders were much busier than during the previous year and 94 new houses, 43 in Rawmarsh and 51 in Parkgate, were built and occupied, against 49 for 1904.

I estimate the population of the parish for 1906 at 16,410.

TABLE I.

	Rawmarsh	Parkgate.	Whole Parish.
Acreage, 1891	—	—	2549
Acreage, 1905	—	—	2549
Number of Houses built and occupied during 1905	43	51	94
Number of Houses occupied at the end of 1905	1393	1889	3282
Number of Houses unoccupied at the end of 1905... ..	16	2	18
Population at Census, 1901	7210	7377	14587
Population estimated to the middle of 1905	6815	9380	16195
Population estimated to the middle of 1906	6965	9445	16410

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Five hundred and sixty-four births (291 males and 273 females) were registered during the year, being three more than in 1904, and giving a birth-rate of 34.82 per thousand inhabitants, against 35.07 for 1904 and 27.2 for England and Wales for 1905.

There were 21 illegitimate births (9 males and 12 females) registered, against 12 for 1904.

TABLE II.

Showing the births and birth-rate for the year for each district and for the whole parish.

District.	Popula- tion.	Births			Birth Rate per 1000 per annum.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
Rawmarsh ..	6815	106	100	206	30.22
Parkgate	9380	185	173	358	38.16
Whole Parish	16195	291	273	564	34.82

TABLE III.

Showing the births and birth-rate for the Parish for each quarter and for the whole year.

QUARTER.	Births.	Birth Rate per 1000 per Annum.
First Quarter	135	33.34
Second ,,	132	32.60
Third ,,	151	37.29
Fourth ,,	146	36.06
Whole year... ..	564	34.82

DEATHS.

Two hundred and eighteen deaths (113 males and 105 females) were registered in the district during the year, being 25 less than in 1905, and giving a death-rate of 13.46 per thousand inhabitants, against 15.19 for 1904. Fifteen deaths of persons belonging to the parish occurred in institutions outside the district, viz. : eight in Rotherham Workhouse, six in Rotherham Hospital, and one in Wadsley Asylum, making a total of 233 deaths for the year, and equal to a rate of 14.38 per thousand inhabitants, against 16.13.

The mortality of infants under one year is 37 per thousand births registered less than in 1904, against a decrease of 18 for the whole of England and Wales. Eighty-five were registered against 105 during the previous year, equal to a mortality of 150 per thousand births registered, against 187 for 1904. This is 22 per thousand births registered more than for the whole of England and Wales, and 37 higher than the whole of England and Wales, less 217 towns, as compared with 41 and 62 respectively for 1904, and is 34 below the average of the parish for the previous ten years. The causes of the infantile deaths were as under :—

Whooping Cough.....	1
Diarrhœa	14
Gastro-Intestinal Catarrh	2
Premature Birth	22
Congenital Defects	3
Wasting Diseases.....	16
Tubercular Disease.....	3
Syphilis	2
Meningitis.....	2
Convulsions	5
Bronchitis	5
Laryngitis	1
Pneumonia	6
Other Causes	3
	—
	85

These diseases are nearly all more or less preventible, and indicate the direction in which a progressive reduction in the death-rate of the parish is most likely to be attained.

The same number of children died between one and five years of age as in 1904, but compared with that year there is an increase of 12, due to pneumonia and tubercular disease—between five and twenty-five years of age, and a decrease of 17 among persons aged twenty-five years and upwards. During the year 32 persons died over seventy years of age, the average age for these being seventy-five and a half years.

The mortality from Bronchitis and Pneumonia is 2.4 per thousand inhabitants, as compared with 2.5 for 1904. Five children under five years died of the one disease, and six of the other, during the year, being a decrease of three and nine respectively as compared with the previous year.

Ten persons died of Phthisis Pulmonalis, giving a death-rate of 0.61 per thousand inhabitants, against 0.68 for 1904. Fourteen died of other Tubercular diseases, making a total of 24 from Tuberculosis, and equal to a death-rate of 1.4, against 0.93 for 1904.

There is a large decrease in the number of deaths from the principal Zymotic diseases, 24 being recorded, against 41 for 1904, and giving a Zymotic death-rate of 1.48 per thousand inhabitants, against 2.56 for the previous year, and 1.52 for the whole of England and Wales. Sixteen of the deaths were due to Diarrhœa as compared with an average of 24 for the previous ten years.

Six accidental deaths—against 12 in 1904—and one suicide were registered during the year. One accidental death happened at a colliery, one on the railway, one on Earl Fitzwilliam's waggon line, and one each was due to a fall, scalds, and burns.

TABLE IV.

Showing the deaths and death-rate for the year for each District and for the whole Parish.

District	Popula- tion	DEATHS.			Death rate per 1000 per annum
		Males	Females	Totals	
Rawmarsh	6815	54	42	96	14·08
Parkgate ...	9380	67	70	137	14·60
Whole Parish	16195	121	112	233	14·38

TABLE V.

Showing the deaths and death-rate for the Parish for each quarter and for the whole year.

QUARTER.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 per annum.
First Quarter... ..	69	17·04
Second ,,	53	13·09
Third ,,	50	12·34
Fourth ,,	61	15·06
Whole Year	233	14·38

TABLE VI.

The following tabular statement shows the Zymotic Diseases referred to, and the number of deaths and rates of mortality caused by them in each district during the years 1904 and 1905.

	1904.				1905.			
	Raw-marsh.	Park-gate.	Hos-pital.	Whole Parish	Hos-pital.	Raw-marsh.	Park-gate.	Whole Parish
Cholera.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlatina.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Measles.....	6	5	...	11	...	...	1	1
Diphtheria .....	...	3	...	3	...	...	2	2
Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	2	...	4	...	1	...	1
Typhoid Fever...	2	1	...	3	...	2	...	2
Diarrhoea	9	11	...	20	...	2	14	16
Total.....	19	22	...	41	...	6	18	24
Zymotic Death-rate per 1000 per annum ...	2·37	2·75	...	2·56	...	0·88	1·91	1·48

TABLE VII.

Showing the Birth-rate, Death-rate, Zymotic Death-rate, and Infant Mortality for the whole Parish and for England and Wales, etc., for the year 1905.

1905.	Parish of Rawmarsh.	England and Wales	Great towns (76)	Smaller towns (142)	England and Wales, less (217) towns
Birth-rate	34·82	27·2	28 2	26 9	26·3
Death-rate	14·38	15·2	15·7	14·4	14·9
Zymotic Death-rate ...	1·48	1·52	1·88	1·50	1·09
Infantile Mortality	150	128	140	132	113
(per 1000 births regist'd.)					

TABLE VIII. (Table IV. of the Local Government Board).

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905, and the District in which they occurred.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN OR Belonging to LOCALITIES (at all Ages).	
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	Raw- marsh	Park- gate
Small Pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1
Whooping-cough ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Diphtheria and M m- branous Croup.....	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Croup	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Fever, Enteric.....	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..
Diarrhœa	16	14	..	..	..	..	2	2	14
Other Septic Diseases	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Phthisis.....	10	..	..	..	5	5	..	4	6
Other Tubercular Dis- eases	14	3	6	3	..	2	..	11	3
Cancer,malignant dis- ease	7	..	..	..	..	7	..	1	6
Bronchitis.....	18	5	2	..	..	5	6	13	5
Pneumonia	24	6	7	1	7	3	..	12	12
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of liver	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1
Premature Birth....	22	22	..	..	..	..	..	9	13
Diseases and accident of Parturition	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Heart diseases.....	17	..	..	1	1	13	2	4	13
Accidents	6	..	2	..	..	3	1	5	1
Suicides.....	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
All other causes	85	33	8	2	2	12	28	28	57
All causes	233	85	30	8	15	56	39	96	137

TABLE IX. (Table V. of the Local Government Board), PARK-GATE DISTRICT.

Infantile mortality during the year 1905. Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	...	...	..	4	1	2	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	12
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal catarrh ...	...	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	8	3	..	2	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Congenital Defects ..	1	1	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	..	..	2	3	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	9
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Syphilis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis (not tuberculous) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Convulsions .....	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pneumonia .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Other Causes .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
	10	4	2	6	22	8	6	2	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	28 50

TABLE XI. (Table I. of the Local Government Board). Vital statistics of whole district during 1905 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.					Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.				
								5				6	7	8	9	10	11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1895	13085	513	39·20	90	175	207	15·81				
1896	13358	528	39·59	83	176	213	15·95				
1897	13608	507	37·25	89	175	255	18·73				
1898	13868	591	42·61	96	162	255	18·38				
1899	14129	501	35·88	103	205	267	18·89				
1900	14387	609	42·32	127	208	260	18·07				
1901	14647	560	38·23	116	207	270	18·43	11	281	19·18	
1902	15007	573	38·18	101	176	245	16·32	16	261	17·39	
1903	15315	627	40·93	110	175	240	15·67	6	246	16·06	
1904	15995	561	35·07	105	187	243	15·19	15	258	16·13	
Averages for years 1894- 903.	14339	557	38·92	102	184	245	17·14				
1905	16195	564	34·82	85	150	218	13·46	15	233	14·38	

TABLE XII. (Table II. of the Local Government Board).

Vital statistics of separate localities in 1905 and previous years.

YEAR.	NAMES OF LOCALITIES.							
	RAWMARSH.				PARKGATE.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1895 ...	5872	193	91	...	7216	320	116	...
1896	6099	195	93	...	7249	333	120	...
1897 ..	6326	212	102	...	7282	295	153	...
1898 ...	6553	221	136	...	7315	280	131	...
1899 ...	6780	261	120	...	7348	330	134	...
1900 ...	7007	265	113	51	7381	344	147	76
1901 ..	7235	264	113	48	7412	296	168	68
1902 ..	7465	255	129	52	7542	318	132	49
1903 ..	7680	254	110	46	7635	373	136	64
1904 ..	8010	229	112	45	7985	332	146	60
Averages of Years 1890 to 1904.	6902	234	111	...	7436	322	138	...
1905 ...	6815	206	96	35	9380	358	137	50

TABLE XIII.

Showing the ages at which the 233 Deaths occurred.

	Hospital	Rawmarsh	Parkgate	Whole Parish
Under 1 Year .....	..	35	50	85
1 and under 5	1	15	14	30
5 „ 15	...	4	4	8
15 „ 25	..	7	8	15
25 „ 65	...	23	33	56
65 and upwards	...	11	28	39
Total	1	95	137	233

TABLE XIV.

Showing the natural increase in the population by Births over Deaths.

	Rawmarsh	Parkgate	Whole Parish
Births	206	358	564
Deaths	96	137	233
Increase	110	221	331

SICKNESS.

SCARLET FEVER.—Fifty cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, 37 in Rawmarsh and 13 in Parkgate, against 24 in 1904. They occurred in every month of the year except September. It was most prevalent in March, April, June, August and November ; eight, seven, nine, seven, and seven cases having occurred in these months respectively. Thirty-eight of the total of 50 were removed to the Hospital, and I feel sure that the prompt isolation of cases which occurred about the same time in thickly populated streets prevented the disease from becoming epidemic. in Rawmarsh especially, several times during the year. One “return” case took place. (By “return” case is meant the probable infection of an inmate of a house by a patient dismissed from the Isolation Hospital.) The disease was not so mild in type as it has been for some years past, and two deaths occurred, one of them in the Isolation Hospital.

The following table shows the number of cases and their distribution as to time and locality, and the number removed monthly to the Isolation Hospital from each locality.

TABLE XV.

	Rawmarsh.	Parkgate.	Whole Parish.	Removed to Hospital.		
				Rawmarsh.	Parkgate.	Whole Parish.
January ..	..	4	4	..	2	2
February ..	2	..	2	2	..	2
March	7	1	8	7	1	8
April	7	..	7	5	..	5
May	1	..	1	2	..	2
June	8	1	9	6	1	7
July .....	..	2	2	..	1	1
August	6	1	7	3	..	3
September ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
October ..	1	1	2	1	..	1
November ..	5	2	7	5	2	7
December ..	..	1	1	..	..	..
Total ..	37	13	50	31	7	38

MEASLES.—There were some cases of Measles came to my knowledge in June, and one death was registered as due to this disease in April.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Twenty-five cases of Enteric Fever were reported during the year, 18 in Rawmarsh and 7 in Parkgate, a larger total than has been notified for ten years. They occurred as under :—

TABLE XVI.

	Rawmarsh.	Parkgate.	Whole Parish.
January	1	0	1
February	0	0	0
March	8	1	9
April.....	2	2	4
May	2	2	4
June	0	0	0
July	2	0	2
August	1	0	1
September	0	0	0
October	0	0	0
November	0	0	0
December	2	2	4
Total	18	7	25

In three houses, five, three, and two cases respectively occurred. Five of the infected houses were provided with W.C.'s and the remainder with privies and ashpits. Choked and defective drains were found associated with nine cases, and in one instance the sewer was at fault. At an infected house at Stubbin the sewage had been received for many years into a cesspool close against the scullery wall. This had been filled up and the sewage conducted by drain pipe into the soil, about a yard from the house. One case was imported. In April I reported to you as follows concerning the Typhoid notifications of March :—

“ Nine cases of Enteric Fever were reported during the month. Four were reported in New Pottery Street, two, a mother and daughter, at No. 92 ; one, the husband at No. 100 ; and one, a child at No. 102. The mother and daughter at No. 92 had nursed and done house work for the wife at No. 100, who first had the disease. At 46, Chapel Street, Rawmarsh, which is a badly ventilated, dirty house, without any back door, a mother and three children are lying huddled in the kitchen ill of the disease. This woman had done washing in connection with a previous case.

“ The ignorance, dirty habits, and improper nursing of some of these people is a likely cause of the disease having spread among them, and in the public interest they should have been isolated, but at present there is no hospital accommodation for them.”

The husband at 46, Chapel Street, who had to nurse his wife and three children, also, as might have been expected, contracted the disease.

Two deaths were due to this disease.

DIARRHŒA.—Diarrhœa was prevalent during the latter half of July and the first half of August, and continued slightly so till the end of September ; but, considering the temperature it was below the average. The incidence of mortality was most unusual. Sixteen deaths took place during the year, 14 of infants under one year of age, and two of persons aged upwards of sixty-five years, and 12 of the infantile deaths took place in Parkgate. The disease was also much more prevalent and severe in Parkgate than in Rawmarsh. I confess I am at a loss to give any satisfactory reason for these facts.

DIPHTHERIA.—Thirteen cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, 3 in Rawmarsh and 10 in Parkgate, against 14 for 1904. One child contracted the disease while convalescing from Scarlet Fever in the Isolation Hospital. There has only been one known case of this disease previously in the Hospital, and that so long ago as nine years, and it was contracted outside. I have to repeat very much what I reported last year, that no insanitary conditions were found at some of the infected houses,

but in other instances the houses were old, badly ventilated, and the inmates not very clean in their habits. Two cases proved fatal.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There were a few cases of Whooping Cough in June and October, and one death was referred to it.

INFLUENZA.—Influenza was more prevalent during January than at any time during the last twelve or thirteen years. It declined in February and disappeared about the middle of March. There was a considerable number of cases again in September and October.

LEAD POISONING.—Several cases of lead poisoning have been under my care during the year, and I have little doubt others have occurred in the parish of which I have no knowledge. The cause was the taking of diachylon, a lead preparation easily and cheaply procurable from any chemist. It is taken as an abortifacient by women, married and single, who are ignorant of the serious consequences that ensue. A few doses cause, sooner or later, weeks of acute suffering and danger to life, and the patients do not seem to be aware of the cause of their illness. I have seen one death from it after a prolonged illness. The practice has become prevalent during the last few years over a considerable part of the country adjoining this district of the Midlands, and many deaths, and an incalculable amount of suffering—in some cases ending in insanity and the asylum—have resulted from it. Some action should be taken by the Legislature to stop or check the pernicious practice.

TABLE XVIII. (Table III. of the Local Government Board). Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.		No. of Cases re- moved to Hospital from each Locality.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.									
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	Raw- marsh.	Park- gate.	Raw- marsh.	Park- gate.
Small-pox	
Diphtheria	...	5	6	1	1	...	3	10	...	...
Membranous croup	
Erysipelas	...	1	...	2	17	5	10	15	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	16	30	1	2	...	37	13	31	7	
Enteric fever	...	4	6	3	12	...	18	7	..	...
Totals	...	1	26	42	7	32	5	68	45	31	7

WATER SUPPLY.

Although notices were posted throughout the parish in June asking consumers to save the water as much as possible, owing to the diminished rainfall, the people had always a sufficient supply, except, as usual, in the high-level districts. In those districts there is still the deficiency I have previously reported. Sheffield water, from Langsett reservoir, was supplied to Rotherham in the middle of the year, but in November your Water Manager had to report that water had to be carted to Stubbin in barrels. That official also interviewed the Rotherham manager during the year, and a deputation was appointed in November to meet the Rotherham Corporation on this subject. I am not aware, however, if any practical result has followed these communications.

One hundred and two millions, five hundred and eight thousands, five hundred and fifty gallons were consumed during the year, equal to seventeen and one-third gallons per head of the population per day, or about the same amount as for 1904. The inhabitants might profitably consume a few more gallons per head per day and secure greater personal and domestic cleanliness.

SANITATION, &c.

I have regularly attended the Sanitary Committee or monthly Council meetings, and read reports on the birth-rate, mortality, and general health of the district. I have sent monthly returns of the diseases prevalent in the district to the Medical Officer of the County Council.

I have inspected different parts of the district at various times in the company of the Sanitary Inspector. Visits have, as usual, been made to premises in which infectious disease existed, inquiries made into the circumstances associated with the disease, and verbal instructions given with a view to prevent its spread. Printed instructions as to precautionary measures, legal penalties, and cleansing, etc., were also sent to such houses on receiving notification. In the case of Enteric Fever the ashpits were cleansed and disinfected and covered pails provided to receive excreta. Action was taken to remove insanitary conditions associated with infectious disease.

For diagnostic purposes the following specimens were sent during the year to the Bacteriological Laboratory of the County Council at Wakefield, viz. : eight specimens of blood from suspected cases of Enteric Fever, and 12 swabs from throats suspected to be diphtheritic. This branch of the work of the County Council is of great assistance in confirming or otherwise doubtful cases of disease.

I attended a conference held at Wakefield in July to consider a proposal by the County Medical Officer to establish a Nurses' Bureau to facilitate the supply of nurses to Isolation Hospitals by a system of exchange or loan between them, and thus to deal economically and efficiently with the fluctuating demands of these institutions.

I condemned during the year 7 pounds of cod fish, 3 stones of halibut, one lamb, and $23\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of bacon, as unfit for human food. I gave evidence before the Rotherham magistrates when the vendors of the cod fish and bacon were convicted and fined the former in £2 and costs and the latter in £5 and costs.

One sample of water from a private surface well was analysed and pronounced to be polluted. The well was closed and the Council's water supplied to the two houses concerned.

Before the onset of hot weather I drew up the following directions for the prevention of diarrhœa, and on my advice they were posted all over the parish and distributed in the form of a handbill to householders.

“PREVENTION OF DIARRHŒA.”

“This disease is prevalent in summer and causes many deaths annually, especially of children under one year of age.”

“It is associated with fouling of the soil and air with decomposed animal and vegetable rubbish, stinking privies and ashpits, dirty fowl-houses, pig-styes, etc., want of domestic and personal cleanliness, and contamination of food, especially milk.”

“It is much more prevalent among, and fatal to, artificially fed than breast fed infants.”

“It is a preventable disease.”

To do what you can to prevent it the following rules should be observed :—

CLEANLINESS.

“Keep your house—floors, walls, ceilings, cupboard, pantry, sinks and cellars—and yard scrupulously clean. Burn all animal and vegetable refuse, and do not allow it or slops to be thrown in the yard, or into the ashpit, which should be kept perfectly dry.”

“Report at once to the Sanitary Officers any foul accumulation, choked or smelling drain, or other nuisance.”

VENTILATION.

“Have the whole of your house well ventilated by day. Keep the bedroom windows down at the top during the night. See that

all fireplaces and chimneys are always open and not covered up with paper, etc., and blocked with old sacks."

FOOD.

"All food should be kept as free as possible from dust and flies, and in a cool, clean, dry, and airy place. Milk should never be left uncovered, and in hot weather should be boiled immediately or soon after being received. Keep all feeding utensils constantly clean and sweet with boiling water. Avoid eating stale fish and tainted meat of all kinds; also fruit and vegetables in a state of decay."

INFANT FEEDING.

"Mothers should, if possible, suckle infants under one year old, and breast infants should not be weaned, if it can be avoided, in the months of July, August, or September. For artificially fed infants the milk should be brought to the boiling point, put into a clean bottle washed out with bi-carbonate of soda, Condyl's fluid, or borax, and then with boiling water. It should then be stoppered with a clean stopper and kept in a cool place or in cold water. Up to two months old a baby should have one part of milk, two parts of boiled water, and a little sugar. From two to four months, half milk and half boiled water. From four to seven or eight months, two parts milk and one part boiled water. From eight to twelve months gradually increase up to All Milk. Babies should not, as a rule, be fed oftener than once every two hours during the day."

"The boat-shaped feeding bottle, with teat directly attached, is much to be preferred to that with the indiarubber tubing. It is better to have two bottles and to keep the one immersed in water and Condyl's fluid, or borax, or some other disinfectant, while the other is in use. Always wash out the bottle with one of these disinfectants, and then with boiling water before refilling it. Do not give the baby a "dummy" teat or other article—not always clean—to suck; and don't allow children to play near ashpits or other dirty places."

"These principles should be carried out, as far as possible, all the year round."

In July I reported that "Serious and urgent complaints have come from different parts of the parish during the last two or three weeks, of an odour so powerful and offensive as to make some people feel sick and compel them to close their windows and doors. It was associated with hot weather and a particular direction of the wind, and Mr. Whitehead and I easily traced it to the Sewage Sludge Tip at Kilnhurst, belonging to the Sheffield Corporation. We visited the Tip on the 27th ult. There were at least two acres of foul sewage sludge, fifteen to twenty feet in depth, exposed to the air and visibly emitting noxious gases.

“ Some further action than hitherto should be taken to prevent the recurrence of this nuisance, which must be a danger to the health of the inhabitants.”

As the result of urgent representations made to the Sheffield Corporation, a layer of lime was deposited on the sludge tip and this minimised the smell. I think the Corporation should be again reminded of this matter before the hot season sets in this summer so as to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance.

NEW CEMETERY.

I presented the following report on a proposed New Burial Ground.

“ To the Chairman and Members of the Rawmarsh Urban District Council Burial Committee.

“ GENTLEMEN,—

“ I received a letter, dated July 20th, from the Clerk, asking me, on the instruction of the Council, ‘ to visit the piece of land in Haugh Road, which it is proposed to purchase for a Burial Ground, so as to ascertain the suitability of the proposed site, the freedom from risk of contamination of sources of domestic water supply and of nuisances from the disposal of drainage water, and to report the result of your investigations to the Burial Committee on the 1st of August next.’

“ I have visited this land and find it is now covered with a barley crop. It lies north and well clear of the greater part of the township, and to the west of Rosehill, Ryecroft, and Sandhill, which comprise a smaller and scattered but increasing part of the population. It consists of two fields about ten acres in extent, and occupies the whole width of part of the eastern side of the top of a ridge. This ridge slopes downwards in the direction of the principal thoroughfare, approximately 180 feet in a mile, to the southern and flat end of the parish. The land, therefore, falls from north to south, and with a greater declivity from west to east. It is bounded on the north by fields and two houses, the nearest of which is 167 yards distant, on the south by fields and dwelling houses in Rawmarsh 413 yards away, on the west by a main road (the Haugh Road), and an unpopulated valley beyond, and on the east by fields and a large block of dwelling houses at Rosehill, 133 yards distant, and communicating with the main road to Swinton. Adjoining the north-east corner is the field the Council have proposed to purchase as a site for a Hospital for Infectious Diseases ; and next to that, still further east, the Victoria Public Park ; but the land drains away from these, which are on a higher level on the opposite side of a shallow valley.

“ Its situation admits of two main entrances from the Haugh and Swinton roads, convenient for different parts of the parish.

“ In the month of March I examined three test holes, nine feet deep, in different parts of the land. They were perfectly dry, and that after a period of wet weather, when similar holes made in land with a much steeper gradient adjoining the present cemetery were well filled with water. They all showed the same strata : about a foot of soil, then a porous layer, evidently the result of the disintegration of the subjacent “ rachel ” (as it is locally termed) ; a porous, friable, and thinly laminated stratum of sand, with a slight but intimate admixture of clay. This “ rachel,” several feet thick, gradually passes into soft sandstone rock at depths varying from six to seven feet from the surface. The sandstone rock is thirty to forty feet thick, I believe, and rests on a thin seam of coal. There is evidence, in a ditch and surface soil near the north-east corner, that there may be clay in that part of the land.

“ From my examination of these test holes, the quarries at the Grammar School and Rosehill, and the denuded rocks on the roadside near, I am of the opinion that the rise and fall of the strata correspond roughly with the rise and fall of the ground in that locality. That being so, the sub-soil water (that is the rain water absorbed from the surface) will drain in a similar direction to the surface water. The latter drains readily into a water-course which flows in a south-easterly direction, passes at one point near the south-west corner of the Rosehill houses, and then away from these houses along an unpopulated valley to the river. There are no springs, and from the character and direction of the strata of this and most of the surrounding land, I should judge that the sub-soil water, if there is ever more water than can be absorbed and evaporated, drains quickly away, and leaves the subsoil practically always dry. Any drainage found necessary could be conducted into the Rosehill sewer.

“ The geological formation is much the same in this land as in the top part of the present cemetery, where decomposition takes place readily and disintegration is completed in about ten years after burial. I think the soil suitable for a burial ground, and, indeed, there is no better to be found in the parish ; the choice is between this and clay, which is quite unfit, from a sanitary point of view, for the purpose. There are no sources of private or public domestic water supply at all near, and the question of possible contamination of such does not require consideration. I also think danger from drainage nuisances most unlikely ; but to place this point beyond all possible doubt, I advise that several holes be dug for inspection of the strata in the narrow field between the proposed site and the Rosehill houses.”

DWELLING HOUSES.—The dwelling houses erected during the year were of the usual cottage class common to the district. Forty-one w.c.'s and two privies and ashpit were provided for 41 houses in Rawmarsh, and 53 w.c.'s for 53 houses in Parkgate. No piggeries were erected in connection with any of these houses. A block of 37 houses in Pottery Yard is certainly below the average of those erected in recent years. I referred to these houses in my last year's report. They form short streets closed at one end and less than 100 feet in length and 24 feet in width. The space from the back walls of one row to the back walls of the opposite row is 39 to 40 feet in width, and contains the backyards—about 15 feet wide—of each row and a 9 feet cart entrance between. I think the bye-law a bad one which permits the formation of these short narrow streets, as they lead to overcrowding of thickly populated houses in too small space. A good many of these houses fail to comply in two respects with bye-law 56. They have a coal house encroaching on the space at the rear, which should be 200 square feet in aggregate extent free from any erection thereon except a w.c., earth closet, or privy and ashpit. Some of them have not the proper space, including the coal house, and it does not measure at least 15 feet from the building to the boundary of lands or premises opposite or adjoining. The cart entrance between the yards for the convenience of emptying ashpits, etc., according to bye-law 4 of your bye-laws passed in 1900 should be 13 feet at least and not 9 feet. The bedrooms are too small to be properly utilised for the average family, and in some the scullery window, contrary to your bye-laws, does not open. These conditions altogether tend to favour the stagnation of air in and about these dwellings and thus lower the standard of general health. They are not likely to help to keep down infantile mortality, or to diminish tuberculosis or respiratory diseases like bronchitis and pneumonia. I think there ought to be a minimum limit to the size of rooms of working class houses.

STREETS.—The following streets mentioned last year in my report as requiring attention under Section 150 Public Health Act, 1875, remain as I last reported, viz. : Infirmary Road, Wheatcroft Road, Apollo Street, Bernard Street, Evelyn Street, Osberton Street, Sandhill Road, the upper part of France Street, and, I may add, Ann Street. Most of these streets are unfit for carriage traffic and have been so for a good many years.

SEWERS.—No extension of the sewerage system has been made during the year. The old rubble sewer in High Street, referred to last year, has been in part converted into a pipe sewer for storm water. That in Greasbro' Road has also been radically dealt with. Parts of others have had to be relaid on account of insufficient fall. One of these, in Albert Road, caused flooding of cellars and choking of drains in connection with w.c.'s, followed by the notification

of a case of enteric fever. The manholes or inspection chambers I have repeatedly complained of in the sewer from the top of High Street to Little Bridge have had to be repaired owing to the laying of the tramway line. Side entrances have had to be made for these chambers, but otherwise from Four Lane Ends to Little Bridge they have not been altered. Eight chambers between the bottom of France Street and Quarry Street have been properly dealt with. Three ventilating shafts have also been erected during the year. I wish to remind you of the need for a flushing chamber to flush the New Pottery Street sewer. This is an old sewer, on either side of which houses have been built to form New Pottery Street. It is near the surface and the gradient into the Green Lane sewer is too little. Drains are often choked in this street and 97 w.c.'s drain into the sewer. Choking of drains were associated with some cases of enteric fever, which occurred here in March and to which I have already referred. Since the ventilating opening was made in the meadow works side of subsided sewer near Roundwood there have been fewer complaints of sewer gas emanations in Green Lane and Sandhill.

As in former years, all drains fifteen to twenty years old which required to be opened during the year have been found to be badly laid and to be the cause of serious nuisance and danger to health.

NIGHTSOIL, ETC., REMOVAL.—This work continues to be efficiently done by the Council's own men under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—These have been all visited during the year and found in a fairly clean condition.

In June the following report, signed by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, was presented. I am very pleased to state that the model bye-laws re Slaughter Houses, issued by the Local Government Board, are now in force in the district. Copies of the bye-laws containing also the rules as to size and structure have been issued to the occupiers of slaughter houses.

“ To the Chairman and Members of the Rawmarsh Urban District Council.

“ GENTLEMEN,—

“ Acting on your resolution of February 1st ‘ That the Medical Officer and Inspector of Nuisances draw up a set of bye-laws dealing with Slaughter-houses, and submit same to the Council,’ we now present the following report :—

“ Section 169 of the Public Health Act, 1875, enacts that, ‘ for the purpose of enabling any Urban Authority to regulate slaughter-houses within their district, the provisions of the Town's Improve-

ment Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to slaughter-houses, shall be incorporated with this Act.' These provisions are contained in Sections 125 to 131 inclusive of the latter Act, and empower Urban Authorities to make bye-laws for the following purposes :—

- “ Licensing, registering, and inspection of slaughter-houses ;
- “ Preventing cruelty therein ;
- “ Keeping the same in a Cleanly and proper state ;
- “ Removing filth at least once in every 24 hours ;
- “ Requiring them to be provided with a sufficient supply of water ; and
- “ Imposing pecuniary penalties on persons breaking such bye-laws.

“ It appears you have no power to make a bye-law regulating the distance of slaughter-houses from dwelling-houses, but by Section 125 of the Town's Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, you may license such slaughter-houses as you from time to time may think proper. The Local Government Board advise that in the exercise of this discretionary power the following rules as to site and structure should influence the decision of sanitary authorities upon each application for a license.

- “ 1st. The premises to be erected or to be used and occupied as a slaughter-house should not be within 100 feet of any dwelling-house ; and the site should be such as to admit of free ventilation by direct communication with the external air in the sides at least of the slaughter-house.
- “ 2nd. Lairs for cattle in connection with the slaughter-house should not be within 100 feet of a dwelling-house.
- “ 3rd. The slaughter-house should not in any part be below the surface of the adjoining ground.
- “ 4th. The approach to the slaughter-house should not be on an incline of more than one in four, and should not be through any dwelling-house or shop.
- “ 5th. No room or loft should be constructed over the slaughter-house.
- “ 6th. The slaughter-house should be provided with an adequate tank or other proper receptacle for water, so placed that the bottom shall not be less than 6 feet above the level of the floor of the slaughter-house.
- “ 7th. The slaughter-house should be provided with means of thorough ventilation.
- “ 8th. The slaughter-house should be well paved with asphalte or concrete, and laid with proper slope and channel towards a gulley, which should be properly trapped and

covered with a grating, the bars of which should not be more than three-eighths of an inch apart.

Provision for the effectual drainage of the slaughter-house should also be made.

“ 9th. The surface of the walls in the interior of the Slaughter-house should be covered with hard, smooth, impervious material to a sufficient height.

“ 10th. No water-closet, privy, or cesspool should be constructed within the slaughter-house.

There should be no direct communication between the slaughter-house and any stable, water-closet, privy, or cesspool.

“ 11th. Every lair for cattle in connection with the slaughter-house should be properly paved, drained, and ventilated.

“ No habitable room should be constructed over any lair.

“ These rules are very important, and we strongly advise the Council to apply them strictly in granting new licenses, and to have them printed and circulated with every copy of the bye-laws, as a guide to builders and applicants.

“ We advise the adoption of the Model Bye-laws with respect to slaughter-houses issued by the Local Government Board.”

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, &C.—These have been visited, and found in much the same state as before the Dairies and Milkshops clean, and most of the cowsheds overcrowded. As will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's Report, several cowsheds have been improved in their means of lighting and ventilation. An advertisement was inserted in the press during the year, notifying intending milk-dealers of the necessity of registration before commencing business.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.—Details of the character of the workshops under this Act are to be found in my report for 1901. They have all been visited during the year, and found in a satisfactory condition. No structural alterations have been required to be made or nuisances found in connection with any of them. They comprise three milliners, eight dressmakers, one tailor, one joiner, one cabinet-maker, two pork-butchers, two stocking-knitters, three file-cutters, one shoemaker, one cokewasher, and one baker ; a total of 24 against 22 for 1904. The baker occupies a bakehouse erected during the year.

LODGING HOUSES.—One house, which I think was clearly in law a common lodging house has been discontinued during the year. I have visited six others, which habitually lodge casual

visitors (musicians mostly) to the parish for a few days or a week. Some of them have occasionally lodged two persons not of the same family in one bedroom, but their lodgers are mostly a man and wife, with sometimes a child, or two sisters. One occupier has three permanent male lodgers, and has engaged with a fourth. A question for you to consider is whether the circumstances of these houses is such that it is necessary there should be some supervision to secure cleanliness, ventilation, and good order, &c. Small-pox has, on one occasion, been introduced into the parish by one of this class of houses:

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I have the following recommendations to make :—

1st.—Proper hospital accommodations for the isolation of infectious diseases and an efficient disinfecter.

When I reported two years ago that you had agreed with Earl Fitzwilliam on the price of about six acres of land as a site for an Isolation Hospital, I expected the scheme would be an accomplished fact by this time. No progress has been made since then, but negotiations have been again opened—I think for the third time—with Wath, Swinton, and North Rotherham Joint Hospital Board. I shall not enter now into the merits of the question whether you should join that Board—if they are willing to receive you—or provide hospital accommodation of your own. My object here is to point out once more the need for proper provision. Twice at least during the year circumstances have emphasized this want. Let me refer you again to the details given in the earlier part of this report, under Enteric Fever, in connection with the cases notified in March, and to the following report by me and correspondence re a case notified in December.

“ On Friday, 29th December, I found a case of Enteric Fever at 81, Bear Tree Road, a male lodger, aged thirty years. He was at times delirious and difficult to manage, and required constant attention. He was destitute and his landlady appealed to me as to what she was to do to get help, as she had five children, and her husband had to keep away from his work to look after the patient. I referred her to the Relieving Officer, with whom I had an interview the same afternoon.”

On Sunday night, the 31st December, I received the following letter :—

“ KILNHURST,

“ December 31st, 1905.

“ DEAR DR. PICKEN,—

“ Mr. Johnson has come over to my house about Thomas Lowry, and he states he is doing all his motions as he lays.

“ It is a pity you do not give an order to the Sanitary Inspector to remove the man. It is the duty of the Urban Council to provide for and receive all patients, whether pauper or not, under Section 131, Public Health Act, 1875 (38 and 39 Vict., c. 55).

“ If you order the removal of the man will you please Telephone 105, Rotherham, on Monday morning by ten o'clock, and oblige,

“ Yours very truly,

“ (Signed), J. JEFFREY.

“ Dr. PICKEN, Parkgate.

I replied as under to Mr. Jeffrey at Rotherham Workhouse the following morning :—

“ PARKGATE,

“ January 1st, 1906.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ RE THOMAS LOWRY.

“ I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date.

“ I explained to you verbally on Friday why I could not advise the removal of this man to Rawmarsh Isolation Hospital, where there are now some cases of Scarlet Fever. A few years ago, under somewhat similar circumstances, I advised my Council not to treat two classes of Infectious Disease at the same time in their Hospital. An aggrieved person communicated with the Local Government Board, who directed the Council to instruct me to report ‘ explaining the nature of the means of isolation available in the district, and the circumstances which prevent the District Council from any further isolation of infectious disease when a single case of one disease happens to be in the Hospital.’ A long report by me was sent to the Central Authority, who were satisfied with my reasons. These reasons still apply.

“ I saw the chairman of the Sanitary Committee last night and he declined to take the responsibility of ordering the man's removal as you desire.

“ Having already given an order for medical attendance and food, it seems to me you ought to have fully discharged your duty by this time by providing nursing also as you promised Mrs. Johnson on Friday.

“ I am,

“ Yours faithfully,

“ JAMES PICKEN.

“ MR. J. JEFFREY,

“ Relieving Officer,

“ Parkgate, Jan. 3rd, 1906.

“ Union Offices,
 “ 26, Moorgate Street,
 “ Rotherham,
 “ 1st January, 1906.

“ DEAR SIR,—

RE THOMAS LOWRY.

“ At my fortnightly meeting to-day our Mr. Jeffrey reported as to this matter, and all facts and information bearing on the case were brought before the Guardians and fully considered.

“ For your information I beg to say that from a report of our Medical Officer the home in question is a serious case of overcrowding and states that the man cannot be properly nursed under the circumstances.

“ My Board positively refuse to admit infectious cases into the Workhouse.

“ You know well, I am sure, that in all cases of infectious diseases it is the duty of all local authorities to isolate.

“ Yours faithfully,
 “ W. C. HARRISON,
 Clerk to the Guardians.

“ J. W. BELLAMY, Esq.,
 Urban Council Offices,
 “ Rawmarsh.

(The medical report referred to in this letter was incorrect, and the charge of overcrowding was made without measurements having been taken. When measurements were taken it was found, as I fully anticipated, that there was ample legal air space for all the inmates.)

The absence of a proper disinfector hampers and discourages one very much in dealing with the prevention of infectious diseases. Disinfection of houses, clothes, etc., is carried out by means of sulphurous acid gas, thorough cleansing, lime-washing and fresh air.

2nd.—The erection of a destructor or other efficient provision for the disposal of night-soil and rubbish.

3rd.—The provision of water closets in all new dwelling houses and the gradual conversion of privies into w.c.'s. There are now 882 w.c.'s in the parish as compared with 770 in 1904. I am very pleased to note that only two privies have been erected in connection with the 94 new houses built and occupied during the year, a marked change when compared with former years. I hope you will put every difficulty in the way of any more being built.

4th.—The paving of all old, dirty, insanitary backyards, in accordance with bye-law 5 of your bye-laws passed in 1900. There are a good many of these insanitary yards still in the parish, and although many have been improved, I think this necessary work should be attacked more vigorously and systematically than in the past.

5th.—The adoption of improved bye-laws under the 44th Section of the Public Health Act, 1875, which deals with the following :—

SECTION 44.—The prevention of nuisances arising from snow, filth, dust, ashes, and rubbish ; and for the prevention of the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health.

6th.—(a) The adoption of bye-laws under the 26th Section of the Public Health Acts Amendment Acts, 1890, which deals with the following matters :—

- (a) Prescribing the time for removal of offensive matter through streets, whether from within, without, or through the authorities' district.
- (b) Providing that receptacles, carts, etc., shall be properly constructed and covered.
- (c) Compelling cleansing of any place where such matter has been spilt or dropped in removal.
- (d) Imposing duties on the occupier of premises in connection with removal of house refuse, so as to facilitate such work when the local authority undertakes or contracts for it.

Accompanying this report are Tables I., II., III., IV. and V. supplied by the Local Government Board ; a Table from the Home Office in connection with the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 ; Table C, supplied by the Medical Officer of the County Council, and the Annual Reports of the Sanitary Inspector and the Surveyor.

JAMES PICKEN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Parkgate, March 6th, 1906.

RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1905 I have reported at the monthly meeting of the Sanitary Committee that letters and notices have been served for the abatement of the following nuisances in accordance with the Public Health Acts :—

Choked Drains	46
Defective Drains.. .. .	9
Repairs to Privies and Ashpits.. .. .	8
Defective Sink Pipes	6
Repairs to Dwelling Houses	5
Defective Spouting causing wet bedrooms	7
Defective W.C.'s	4
Remove Accumulations of Manure	4
To Pave or Asphalt Yards	3
Cease using Water from Polluted Well.. .. .	3
Close Polluted Well	2
Accumulation Foul Water in Ashpit.. .. .	2
Accumulation Foul Water in Cellar of Dwelling	2
To connect Drains of W.C. to Council's Sewer	2
Keeping Fowls too near Dairy.. .. .	1
Insanitary conditions near Dairy	1
Keeping Pigs in Slaughter-house	1
To Cleanse Slaughter-house	1
To Cleanse Fish Shop	1
To Cleanse Dwelling House	1
To Cease Overcrowding	1
No Doors to Ashpits	1
To Cease burning Bitumen near Dwelling Houses	1
In hand previous year	9
	<hr/>
	121
Of these have been completed.. .. .	110
In hand or promised attention.. .. .	11
	<hr/>
	121

DRAINAGE.

Defective drains have been remedied or relaid at Aldwarke Road, Terrace Road, Ann Road, Holly Bush, High Street, Rawmarsh, Stocks Lane, Granby House.

Six new W.C.'s have been substituted for privies at 11 houses. The w.c. from Gas Works offices has been connected to sewer in Rotherham Road. Cousin's trap has been put in two cellars to prevent flooding from sewer in time of heavy rain. There are now 604 w.c.'s serving 650 houses and schools on the Parkgate sewer outfall ; and 278 w.c.'s serving 345 houses and schools on the Rawmarsh sewer outfall ; total, 882 w.c.'s to 995 houses.

The old stone sewer in Greasbro' Road has been taken out or sealed, in consequence of complaints of bad smells from the said old sewer in the houses near. The rubble sewer, High Street, has been piped with 9-inch tubes from the cemetery gates to near Hicks' shop as a storm water sewer.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1885.

			Cow-keepers.	Purveyors and Dairymen.	Total.
There were on the Register, 1904	..		17	15	32
Registered during 1905 .. ..	..	..	2	1	3
			—	—	—
			19	16	35
Given up during 1905 .. ..	..	..	3	1	4
			—	—	—
			16	15	31

I have visited the cow sheds at intervals. Three of the cow sheds have had more light by windows put in and ventilation improved by air grates.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

						Slaughter-houses.
On Register 1904.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Licensed during year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
						18
Pulled down during 1905 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
Now on Register .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	17

The license issued is an annual one in accord with Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, Section 29. The old building had become dilapidated and dangerous and was pulled down. One slaughter-house walls have been cemented five feet from the floor, tooled to a smooth surface, enabling the same to be washed as required. A copy of the new bye-laws have been issued to each occupier of a slaughter-house in the district. I have visited the slaughter-houses at intervals, serving notices re cleansing when required.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been notified during 1904 :—

50	persons	suffering from	Scarlet Fever	in	40	houses.
25	„	„	Enteric Fever	22	„	„
25	„	„	Erysipelas	25	„	„
13	„	„	Diphtheria	12	„	„

—
113 persons suffering in 99 houses.

Two notifications were given in duplicate, two medical men attending each patient.

They were located as follows :—

Ward.	Scarlet Fever.		Enteric Fever.		Erysipelas.		Diphtheria.	
	P.	H.	P.	H.	P.	H.	P.	H.
North	16	13	3	3	4	4	2	2
Central	21	15	14	12	5	5	..	..
East	5	4	..	..	1	1	4	4
West	7	7	3	3	10	10	6	5
South	1	1	5	4	5	5	1	1
	50	40	25	22	25	25	13	12

In 1 fatal case of Enteric Fever bedding was destroyed on medical certificate and compensation given amounting to £3 8s. 6d. Bedding in two other cases was destroyed after fatal illness without compensation.

HOSPITAL.

There has been removed to Hospital during 1905 38 persons suffering from Scarlet Fever from 28 houses.

Taken from North Ward,	11	persons	from	9	houses.
East Ward,	3	„		2	„
West Ward	4	„		4	„
Central Ward,	20	„		13	„

—
38 persons 28 houses.

Twenty-six houses have been fumigated, whilst whitewashing and cleaning has been enforced. Disinfectants have been distributed gratis, with printed instructions and precautions to every infected house. Ashpits have been cleansed when Enteric Fever notified, and pails supplied as receptacles, which were changed as required. A new wash house, with bath, has been built during

the year and has proved very serviceable. Men's Ward has been repaired and walls cemented four feet from floor with Parian cement. The whole of the Hospital woodwork was painted and electric bell placed on outer door.

VISITATION.

I have visited the yards and premises of 4961 houses during the year ; also the slaughter-houses, cow sheds, dairies and workshops under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

I seized and destroyed 7 pounds of cod fish, which was unfit for food, but had been sold for "fried fish purposes," and caused proceedings to be taken ; the magistrates inflicted a fine of £2 and costs. Also 5 pieces of bacon (23½ pounds), which were on hawkers' cart in the street, which were condemned as unfit for food ; a fine of £5 and costs was imposed on the offender. Forty-five pounds of fish were condemned as unfit for food. I submitted a sample of well water for analysis, which was condemned as unfit for drinking purposes. The Council's water has since been laid on the two houses served by the polluted well. The well was filled up. I also destroyed a sheep under magistrates order which had been submitted for inspection weighing 65 pounds, not being fit for food and condemned by Dr. Picken, M.O.H.

In consequence of complaint of an accumulation of waste stagnant water by a resident near, the magistrates made an order, which was served on the Council to abate the nuisance, which I saw completed, draining same into Council's sewer. No owner is known of the land, which lies waste.

In consequence of much complaint of bad smells from the sewage tip belonging to the Sheffield Corporation, notice was served on said Corporation, which was complied with by a free distribution of lime as far as was possible ; but such deposits in such large areas should be prohibited by the Council in their district.

REFUSE REMOVAL.

There has been removed during 1905 :—

Loads.	Middens.	Privies.	Nights	£	s.	d.
6062 from 2803 ..	5733 in 259,	costing for labour		471	18	0
1415 ,, 1262 dry ashpits						
583 rubbish				159	12	6
<hr/>						
8060 from 4065 ashpits						
Trenching land				95	4	4
<hr/>						
				726	14	10
Labour, chopping provender ..				0	17	8
<hr/>						
				£727	12	6

Deposited on Farmers' land	..	..	..	1668
Deposited on Tip	..	..	..	6392
				<hr/>
				8060

At an average cost per load, Day work .. 1s. 7d.
Night work .. 1s. 6½d.

This average cost is Half-penny per load Day work and a Farthing Night work more than last year, mainly caused by hiring of horses 10 weeks when there were 3 horses instead of 4,

We have taken 137 loads less to farmers than last year ; 203 loads more to the tips. Trenching land has cost £32 18s. 10d. more this year than last, and dry ashpits and rubbish have increased £18 2s. in cost this year, as all the new property built, with two exceptions, have been w.c.'s and dry ashpits.

The Sanitary Department have also earned :—

Changing " Fever " Boxes	..	..	9	4	0
Removal of Fish Refuse	..	..	8	12	6
Carting for Hospital	..	..	1	12	0
Highway Department..	..	..	0	3	6
					<hr/>
					£19 12 0

We have about finished the tip at the Rawmarsh cricket field, which has been serviceable ; but the meadow works tip is filling up fast to the level the owner wishes, and during next year the future deposits of refuse will require the attention of the Council.

JAMES WHITEHEAD,

Inspector of Nuisances.

RAWMARSH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

For the year ending December 31st, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rawmarsh Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present my annual report on the work executed in the Surveyor's Department during the past year.

The mileage of the highways repairable by this Council within the district is as under, viz. :—

	Miles.	Yards.
ROADS AND STREETS.—Main Roads ..	4	20
Other Roads ..	11	382
	—	—
Total ..	15	402
	Miles.	Yards.
FOOTPATHS.—On Main Roads ..	3½	415
On Other Roads ..	11½	283
	—	—
Total ..	15	696

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS.—There are 12¼ miles, 358 yards of footpaths through fields, etc., in various parts of the district, and the same have been repaired with engine ashes as often as required.

The following roads and streets have been repaired with 2½-inch diameter broken blue granite :—Rotherham Road, Broad Street, High Street, and Rawmarsh Hill.

Other roads and streets have been repaired with 2½-inch diameter broken grey cinders, and include Stocks Lane, Dale Road, Kilnhurst Road, Clay Pit Lane, Green Lane, Greenfield Lane, Haugh Road, Aldwarke Road, Holly Bush Street, Albert Road, Victoria Road, and Brampton Bierlow Road.

RAWMARSH TRAMWAYS.

The new tramway track through this district has been laid ; it was commenced at the Rotherham boundary on August 10th, 1905, and at the Rawmarsh boundary at Little Bridge, on September 1st, 1905. In laying the track it has necessitated the lowering of the sides of the roads, raising kerbs, channels, and footpaths in various parts of the roads ; also the filling up the sides of the roads with earth in several places. The length of the

Rawmarsh tramways is 2 miles, 2 furlongs, and 50 yards. The building of the tramway power station, car sheds, and offices was commenced on November 22nd, 1905, and rapid progress is being made with these buildings.

COUNCIL OFFICES AND LIBRARY.

The land fronting the Council offices and library has been trenched, soil carted and spread, and trees and shrubs planted. The ventilation of the Council room has been improved.

KERBING AND CHANNELLING.

The following Kerb and Channelling has been laid :—

40 lin. yards	12in. by 8in. kerb,	in Rawmarsh Hill.
40	„ 14in. by 8in. channel	in Rawmarsh Hill.
23	„ 6in. by 12in. kerb,	Lloyd Street.
2	„ 12in. by 8in. kerb,	Aldwarke Road.

Kerb and channelling has also been laid in the following streets :—Kilnhurst Road, Craven Street (junction with Aldwarke Road), North Street (junction with Kilnhurst Road), Clay Pit Lane, Aldwarke Road, Ashwood Road, Pottery Street, Broad Street, Hall Street, Lloyd Street, Albert Road, Westfield Road, Haugh Road.

Sett crossings have been laid in Stock's Lane, Fitzwilliam Street, and Aldwarke Road.

FOOTPATHS.

Tar asphalt has been made and used in asphaltting and repairing footpaths in the undermentioned places :—

213	super yards,	Kilnhurst Road.
59	„	Dudley Street.
24	„	Thomas Street.
67	„	Rawmarsh Hill.
139	„	Aldwarke Road.
422	„	Lloyd Street.
88	„	Council offices.
233	„	Aldwarke Road.
111	„	Main Street.
2	„	Clay Pit Lane.
174	„	Hall Street.
34	„	Cross Street.
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Total	..	1566

Asphalt footpaths have also been repaired in Kilnhurst Road, Warren Vale Road, Greasbro' Road, Clay Pit Lane, Broad Street, Aldwarke Road, Bear Tree Road, Goosebut Street, Ashwood Road, Terrace Road, Lloyd Street, Netherfield Lane, Rotherham Road, Victoria Road, Haugh Road, Rawmarsh Hill, Dale Road., and footpath from Morley Street to Rawmarsh Hill.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Dale Road has been widened on the west side, opposite Dale colliery, the centre of road for the width of the tramway track raised up with concrete, and the sides made up with earth, and the road foundation pitched.

A 15-inch diameter storm water pipe drain has been laid under the road and gully drains laid and connected to same.

Seventy-two lineal yards of old stone wall on the west side of the road has been taken down.

Portions of the Rotherham and Swinton Road have been paved from the paved margins of the tramway track, to the road channels.

STEAM ROLLER.

The Steam Roller has worked upon the highways during the year 114 days, hired out to various contractors and District Councils 24 days, employed at Council's depot cutting chop 4 days. The Roller has been regularly inspected by the National Boiler Insurance Co., Manchester, and has been kept in thorough repair.

STREET CLEANSING.

The expenditure in street cleansing on the other roads, from January to December, 1905, has been £139 14s. 5d., and the expenditure for the previous years, which included scavenging on main roads was, in 1904 £241 0s. 6d., 1903 £309 16s., 1902 £290 0s. 10d.

SEWERS.

The district sewers have been periodically flushed, the manholes cleansed, and the sewage screening chambers at Rotherham Road and Dilks Road cleaned.

Choked sewers and drains have been opened, the pipes relaid, and put in working order.

A number of the manholes on the main sewer, from Little Bridge to Dale Road have been rebuilt and side entrances built.

205 lin. yards of 9-inch storm water sewer has been laid in High Street from opposite Mr. Willey's house to opposite Mr. Hy. Hick's shop.

27 lin. yards of 12-inch pipe sewer laid in Fitzwilliam Street.
 54 lin. yards of 12-inch pipe sewer laid in Greasbro' Road.
 55 lin. yards of 9-inch pipe sewer laid in Greasbro' Road.
 One brick manhole, 9 feet 7 in. deep built in Greasbro' Road.
 One brick manhole 8 feet 4 in. deep built in Greasbro' Road.

The old 2 ft. by 2 ft. rubble drain has been taken up in Greasbro' Road.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS, ROUNDWOOD.

4301 super. yards of land has been dug and trenched at a cost of £10 14s. 8d.

2220 loads of sludge was removed from the sludge beds and taken away by farmers.

Two new notice boards and posts have been fixed on the works.

The gas fittings at the buildings have been put in order.

The gas engine, being out of order, the valves requiring re-grinding and adjusting, it has been repaired by Messrs. Ashton.

The filling material from the six bacteria beds has been wheeled out and the beds emptied. They have been refilled with filtering material, broken cinders, clinkers and ashes. Grips have been cut on the land.

ALDWARKE ROAD PUMPING STATION.

New wood cog wheels have been put in the spur wheel of No. 1 gas engine, the pump valves taken to pieces and lubricated and put in order, new leathers for side valves, bucket leathers and lubricating oil cups have been provided.

NEW BUILDINGS.

I have from time to time visited and inspected all new houses and buildings in course of construction, and all drains in connection therewith have been periodically visited and inspected.

Plans have been submitted and approved for 43 new houses, 1 chapel, 1 new street, 19 additions, shop fronts and sheds, 1 bake-house, 1 slaughter-house, cemetery chapels and sexton's house.

94 houses have been completed and occupied.

1 bake house, 1 slaughter house, 3 sheds, 3 additions to houses, and 3 shop fronts have been built.

VICTORIA PARK, ROSEHILL.

The Park has been kept in order, beds dug and manured, hot-beds made, cuttings pricked out, flowers planted, plants watered, walks swept, and grass borders edged.

Haymaking was made, the cost being £17 8s.
The men's water closets have been put in order.

STABLES AND DEPOT.

38 super. yards of stone paving has been laid to stable floor and gullies fixed outside stable.

43 lin. yards of 4-inch drain has been laid from stable and a brick cesspit built.

The yard opposite the stables has been repaired with broken cinders and rolled.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS.

Stock of tools and materials was taken in March, 1905, and the same entered in the stock book.

OFFICE WORK, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

PLANS.

The following plans and specifications have been prepared by the Surveyor :—

Plan of Bowling Green, Park.
Plan Raising Walls, Council's Yard.
Plan, Walls and Railings, opposite Council Offices.
Plan, Walls and Railings, opposite Library.
Plan, Ann Street (Private Street).
Tracing of Private Streets, Parkgate.
Tracing of Site and Key Plan proposed Cemetery.
Plan, Widening Road, High Street.

Plan, Raising Road Clay Pit Lane.
Plan, Library Screens over counter.
Plan, Widening Dale Road.
Plan, Dale Road, Mrs. E. Driver's Property.
Plan, Pitching on Rotherham and Swinton Road.
Section, Lowering Road under Rotherham Road Bridge.
Plan, Retaining and Fence Wall, Dale Road.
Tracings of Fence Wall Dale Road.
Plan, New Sewer, Albert Road.
Plan, Manhole Alterations Rotherham Road sewer.
Plan of Water Closets at Park.

SPECIFICATIONS.

Private Street, Dun Street, Parkgate.
 Walls and Railings Offices and Library.
 Water Closets at Park.
 Wall, Dale Road.

Two office cupboards and a plan cupboard have been made, and I have numbered and indexed all the plans of recent date. A doorway should be made between the Surveyor's office and the adjoining room so that the cupboards would be easily accessible.

The room door in the vestibule is always open and I cannot be responsible for any plans or papers which might be taken away from the room.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN BOURNE,

Surveyor.

Member Liverpool Engineering Society.

Member Municipal and County Engineers.

